

**HIGH BRIDGE TRAIL STATE PARK
MASTER PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

September 28, 2006

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM. Committee members in attendance were: Ms. Aungier, Ms. Burton, Mr. Calkins, Mr. Craft, Ms. Dixon, Mr. Doswell, Ms. Goin, Ms. Kahl, Mr. Mitchell, Ms. Morris, Ms. Nase, Ms. Puckett, Ms. Rice, Ms. Schmucker, and Ms. Swinson. DCR staff in attendance were: Mr. Zawatsky, Mr. Hougland, Mr. Wallace, Ms. Reeder, Ms. Wampler, and Mr. Munson.

The committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the previous meeting and noted on the draft master plan maps where additions were needed. The committee also discussed the phasing of the park's development as outlined below:

Note: Italicized numbers are improvements or actions to be made by others besides DCR

Phase I

Provide access to High Bridge from the East

(Provides immediacy of access, the historic approach, most scenic view, access to historic forts)

- 1) Secure trail with gates and signs
- 2) Deck and secure High Bridge
- 3) Surface trail between Aspen Hill Road and High Bridge
- 4) Parking lot at Aspen Hill Road crossing
- 5) Controlled access road between Aspen Hill parking and High Bridge
- 6) Kiosk at parking lot
- 7) Interpretive displays at High Bridge
- 8) *Improvements to Aspen Hill Road (VDOT, Local BOS)*
- 9) Phase I Management Node (ranger residence, visitor services, administrative office, shop/maintenance area)

Phase II

Farmville to High Bridge

- 1) Trail surfacing
- 2) Landscaping of trail in town
- 3) Appomattox River bridge decking
- 4) Trailhead in Farmville
- 5) Administrative node--residence/park main office/visitor services, parking
- 6) Interpretive displays
- 7) Rest stops
- 8) *Connecting trails (Stanley Park/Longwood, local parks and trails)*
- 9) Water access to Appomattox River
- 10) Equestrian parking/ picnic area

Phase III

Farmville to Prospect

- 1) Trail Surfacing
- 2) Deck bridge over Rte 460
- 3) Parking areas
- 4) Rest stops
- 5) *Prospect Depot (convert to museum)*
- 6) Administrative and maintenance node(visitor services, parking, residence, office)
- 7) Interpretive displays
- 8) *Connector trails to local parks, industrial area*

Phase IV

Prospect to Pamplin City

- 1) Connector to depot
- 2) Equestrian parking at Rt. 660
- 3) Directional signage at VDOT property 460/old 460
- 4) *Depot (restroom, visitor services, parking)*
- 5) Interpretive displays
- 6) Trail Surfacing
- 7) Rest stops
- 8) Parking at Rt. 657
- 9) *Connect to Appomattox CH NHP, Holliday Lake SP*

Phase V

Aspen Hill to Burkeville

- 1) Connector Trail to Burkeville depot
- 2) Parking
- 3) Trail Surfacing
- 4) Rest stops
- 5) *Burkeville Depot (restroom, visitor services, parking)*
- 6) Linkages to points of significance (Twin Lakes SP, Burkes Tavern)
- 7) Rt. 460 bridge decking

Other comments:

There was some discussion about several issues that dealt specifically with the Town of Farmville. It was agreed that the plan would not address these issues but leave them for action by Town Council at a later date. These questions dealt with equestrian use in the busy central business district, landscaping and lighting of the park in the central business district, surfacing material of the trail through downtown, and use of the Farmville Depot by the park.

It was reported that Mitch Bowman had offered his support, in a telephone call to Bob Munson, for the provision of public access to High Bridge as the highest priority for

Phase I development of the park. To help defray the cost of educational and interpretive signs for Phase I, Mr. Bowman pledged to help find funding assistance.

It was agreed that the master plan would refer to the need for the provision of overnight facilities in the plan's narrative to allow for DCR's development of campgrounds and cabins if the private sector had not provided them, given adequate time had passed for their development.

The next DCR Board meeting should discuss designation of Aspen Hill Road for a recreational access road if VDOT and the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors were supportive of the idea.

Mr. Calkins graciously provided a copy his book *Thirty-Six Hours before Appomattox* to committee members and presented Bob Munson with an historic print of High Bridge.

The committee was reminded that the draft master plan would be presented at a public input meeting that would be held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 19th at the Prince Edward County Courthouse, 3rd floor Boardroom. Maps will be displayed on the walls of the boardroom showing the locations of proposed facilities.

The committee was thanked for their hard work and dedication to the master planning effort.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.